

2006 Black History Month

The Niagara Movement: The Legacy of the American Civil Rights 100 Years Later

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2006

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: 250 Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room (Allendale)

The Niagara Movement was the precursor to the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s. This small movement led by the American intellectual W. E. B. DuBois became the stepping stone to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1909. Learn how and why this movement began. What was its political philosophy? What were its strengths? What were its limitations? What are its lessons for today?

Professor Randal Maurice Jelks from Calvin College's Department of History will lead this discussion. Professor Jelks is also author of the forthcoming *African Americans in the Furniture City: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Grand Rapids* (March 2006 University of Illinois Press).

Rosa Parks Tribute

Date: Monday, February 6, 2006

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center (Allendale)

In honor of the legacy of Mrs. Rosa Parks, the Office of Multicultural Affairs will highlight the various contributions she has made to the U.S. society. Comments and reflections will be given by an invited public official, followed by music and a film highlighting the contributions of Mrs. Parks.

African American Read-In

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Locations: Ottawa Montessori, Alexander, Buchanan, and Potter's House Elementary Schools

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African American Health Forum

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2006

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Loosemoore Auditorium (Pew Campus, Downtown Grand Rapids)

Mr. Wayne Boatwright, Chief Diversity Officer for Saint Mary's Health Care, Battle Creek Health System and Mercy General Health Partners; will moderate a panel of invited health professionals from the Grand Rapids community to identify and offer solutions to various health care concerns in the African American community. Topics may include crime, infant mortality, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, and hypertension. At the conclusion of the forum, a date will be announced for an African American Health Fair.

'''Jazz is a White Man's Word''': Miles Davis and the Fusion of Jazz and Rock in the 1970's'

Date: Friday, February 17, 2006

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Loosemoore Auditorium (Pew Campus, Downtown Grand Rapids)

Dr. Craig Benjamin of Grand Valley's History Department will lead a discussion with local musicians on "Miles Davis and the Fusion of Jazz and Rock in the 1970". A short musical performance by the band will follow the lecture.

Toyia T. Taylor Presents: Taking Back the Hip Hop Generation

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center (Allendale)

Toyia T. Taylor will discuss the history of hip hop; bridging the gap between the hip hop and other generations; positive and negative effects of the music industry; dispelling the stereotypes of artists' fame; and popular lyrics and their relevance or lack of, to the community. This interactive lecture will include audience participation including activities designed to develop a better understanding amongst many generations.